

A NEW SPECIES OF BRICKELLIA (ASTERACEAE)

FROM NORTHCENTRAL MEXICO

B. L. Turner

Department of Botany, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712

Collections from the Chihuahuan Desert region of northcentral Mexico by Dr. M. C. Johnston and his colleagues continue to yield a number of previously undescribed taxa. The new Brickellia described below is apparently confined to the Del Carmen Mountains of Mexico, which is a prominent range about 2500 m in elevation readily visible from the north side of the Rio Grande River, in the Big Bend region of Texas.

BRICKELLIA STOLONIFERA, B. L. Turner, sp. nov.

B. simplex Gray simulans sed valde distinguibilis capitulescentiis terminalibus, foliis plerumque oppositis, caulibus pro parte stoloniformibus.

Erect, perennial herbs, 20-50 cm tall, with delicate stolons, stems puberulent, 1-3 mm in diameter. Leaves predominately opposite; petioles 1.5-3.5 mm long; blades 2.5-9.0 cm long, 1.5-6.5 cm wide, deltoid-cordate, coarsely and irregularly dentate, sparsely pubescent below, mainly along the veins, moderately to sparsely glandular-punctate beneath. Heads broadly turbinate to campanulate in a terminal 1-4 headed capitulescence. Involucre 12.0-13.5 mm long, the bracts 50-60, chartaceous, spreading at maturity; the outermost ovate, apiculate to awned, variously puberulent, the remainder, linear-lanceolate, ciliate. Corolla 7.5-8.0 mm long, tubular throughout, somewhat constricted below the lobes, glabrous; lobes acute, ca 0.4 mm long, glabrous to sparsely strigose, especially above; pappus of 30-40, white, delicate, ciliate bristles, 5-8 mm long.

TYPE: MEXICO, Coahuila: W slope of Sierra del Jardin, E of Rancho Caballo (29° 03' N x 102° 38' W), 1400-2250 m, steep slopes of igneous rock, coarse sandy and gravelly soil, Quercus-Nolina-Dasyllirion community; 16 Sep 1972, Chiang, Wendt & Johnston 9299 (Holotype LL; isotype MEXU). 150: 1371

Additional collections: MEXICO. Coahuila: Del Carmen Mountains, 26 Aug 1936, Marsh 598 (TEX); N slopes of Picacho del Centinela, Del Carmen Mts., 24 Aug 1953, B. H. Warnock 11597 (TEX).

This taxon will key to the Chihuahuan species, Brickellia simplex, in Robinson's (1917) treatment of the genus, but is

amply distinct in habit, capitulescence and leaf arrangement. B. stolonifera has a terminal cluster of 1-4 heads while those of B. simplex are lateral, each arising from shortened nodes along the upper stem; B. stolonifera has predominately opposite leaves while those of B. simplex are mostly alternate, much as in the related, widespread, B. grandiflora (Hook.) Nutt., which has heads and florets quite different from both B. simplex and B. stolonifera.

Literature Cited

Robinson, B. L. 1917. A monograph of the genus Brickellia. Mem. Gray Herb. 1: 1-151.

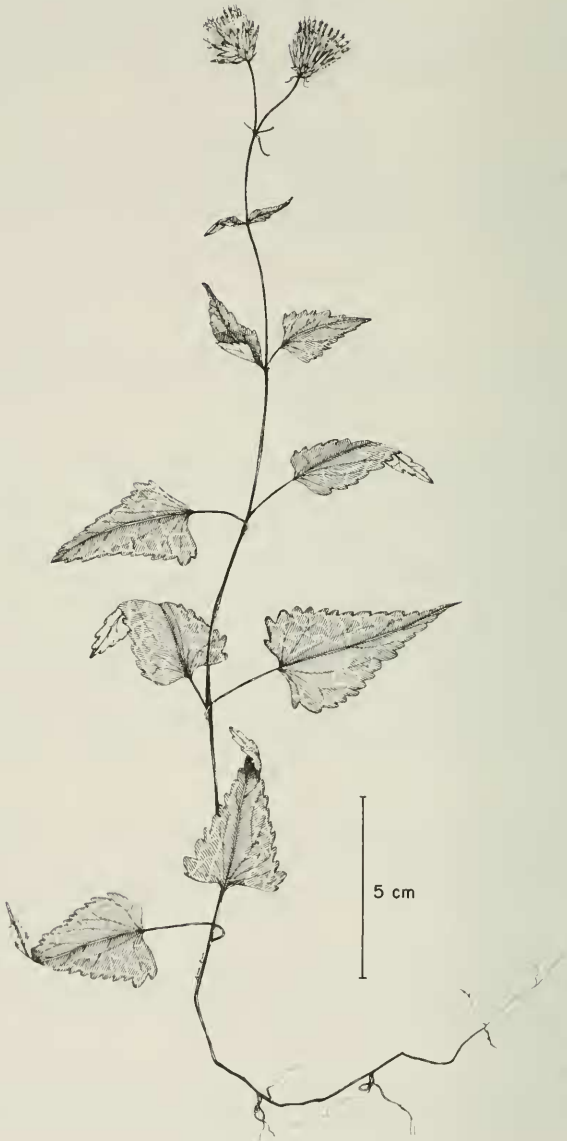


Fig 1. *Brickellia stolonifera* (holotype)